

The Rocky Mount Herald

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TYLER ELECTED PRESIDENT OF MERCHANTS

The new board of directors of the Merchants Association met Wednesday and elected officers following an annual meeting at the Ricks hotel dining room where J. C. Williams, prominent Wilmington merchant, past president of the state association and present member of the state board of directors, made the principal address.

All three of last year's officers were renamed to head the association this year. They are: A. L. Tyler, president; W. G. Robbins, vice-president, and P. L. Thigpen, treasurer. E. C. Speight holds the office of secretary without the necessity of reelection.

Referring to the state sales tax, the speaker at Wednesday's gathering declared it a hindrance to national recovery because anything which retards the quick distribution of goods is a drawback in the nation's fight to regain normal conditions.

"I thing anyone who supports the sales tax is being disloyal to President Roosevelt and I urge you to support candidates who are opposed to the sales tax. You should do this from a motive of patriotism if from no other," the speaker declared.

Brick School Holds Closing Exercises

Dick Fountain Counsels the Graduates and Commends Roosevelt

Tarboro, May 25.—The commencement exercises at Brick school, near Whitakers, which now is operated as a high school for colored students by Edgecombe, Nash and Halifax counties, were held Wednesday with Principal T. S. Inboden, presiding.

He introduced former Lieutenant-Governor Richard Fountain of Rocky Mount, who delivered the address to the graduates, these being the first graduates from the colored rural schools of the county.

Governor Fountain commended Professor Inboden for his fine work at this school, where 39 years he has been the chief instructor. "I am for education, for ignorance is the greatest cost and education should be given all races," said Mr. Fountain.

"The tendency in old times was to give an education to those who showed the greatest aptitude, but those less mentally alert should be trained also. This school has served a great purpose and Principal Inboden has rendered a great service. I never have heard of a criminal from this school. Our educational system is lifting people out of ignorance and teaching them against crime. We are passing through the worst depression ever known which was brought about by ignorance and greed. Roosevelt stands for the new deal and says farmers have a right to receive reasonable returns for their products. Cotton has advanced from 6c to 12c a pound and tobacco from 12c to 18c a pound. Roosevelt has broken the shackles and chains. All increase comes from the soil, heat, light and moisture. Learn to labor and take advantage of the God-given elements as everything comes from the soil."

Carrie Battle Bratcher, colored rural supervisor, introduced Superintendent J. A. Abernethy, who presented the diplomas to the graduates who were: Irie Coffield, Halifax; Lima Bowen, Edgecombe; Henry Lynch, Edgecombe; James Bryant, Edgecombe; Ruth Taylor, Halifax. Red Cross certificates for 10 girls, who were trained and instructed by Miss Mattie Shackelford, World War nurse, were awarded by Professor Abernethy. Dr. J. L. Peacock made a brief address to the graduating class, in which he gave sound and wholesome advice.

He said he was proud of the record of this school and bestowed (Please turn to page four)

Doughton Raps New Basic Law

Points Out Provisions Which He Describes As Insuperable Objections

Sparta, May 26.—R. A. Doughton of Sparta, veteran North Carolina legislator and former Lieutenant-Governor, in a statement today came out against the state's proposed new constitution, citing several provisions he described as "insuperable objections" to its adoption.

Doughton, who has been chairman of the joint finance committee in several legislatures, said the proposed constitution would give the General Assembly unlimited power of taxation and "a document can hardly be called a constitution which does not contain such restrictions as will protect the people from exercise of unrestrained power."

The veteran legislator also said the instrument, upon which the State will vote in the November elections, would empower the General Assembly to take from the people the right to elect any of their local officers.

"The people should elect some of their officers, both state and local and their right to do so should be put in the constitution itself," he asserted.

Further centralization of the schools was opposed by Doughton, who said the county should remain as the unit for school administration.

"To my mind, these are outstanding objections to adoption of the proposed constitution," his statement said. "I shall, therefore, vote against it, and hope that it will be rejected by our people."

Doughton declared the document contains some changes in the state's constitution which could be well made and for which he would be glad to vote if submitted separately.

District Officer Is Heard In City

Raleigh and Rocky Mount Clubs Met at Home of R. T. Fountain Thursday Night

If civic clubs have accomplished nothing during the past few years except keeping alive the spirit of friendliness among the club members, then their existence has been justified.

The fact was brought out by Frederick L. Willis of Asheville, district governor of the Carolinas Civitan clubs, in a joint meeting of the Raleigh and Rocky Mount clubs at the home of R. T. Fountain, lieutenant governor of the district Thursday night. Nearly 50 Civitans and their wives were assembled for the occasion.

Following the supper, served in buffet style, the visitors were welcomed by John M. King, of the local club and the meeting was turned over to Mr. Fountain, who in turn, presented the speaker for the meeting, D. E. Bulluck, local club president, presided.

Quoting from a noted bishop, the speaker lauded the merits of civic clubs, particularly as a means of promoting friendship and stated that he was proud to belong to an organization of which citizenship building was an objective.

He urged the club members to constantly promote friendliness, helpfulness, an understanding of other people's viewpoint and "to hang on to something worthwhile" which he named as the church. He urged the clubs to strive for good citizenship and clean government and expressed a belief that President Roosevelt had been divinely sent to the nation in a time of distress.

Appreciation to the local club and to Mr. and Mrs. Fountain for the entertainment was expressed by J. Wilbur Bunn, of the Raleigh club, Dr. Stuckey of N. C. State (Please turn to page four)

NEW CONSTITUTION OPPOSED BY DOUGHTON

In this issue of The Herald there is carried a statement from Governor R. A. Doughton, veteran North Carolina legislator, former Speaker of the House and former Lieutenant-Governor of the State, citing his reasons why he cannot support the proposed new constitution. Gov. Doughton states in simple and plain language his reasons for not being able to vote for the new constitution and this paper concurs fully with his views.

We stated some time ago that the new constitution took all limit off of taxation and in Gov. Doughton's statement he says that the proposed constitution would give the General Assembly unlimited power of taxation and that a document could hardly be called a constitution which does not contain restrictions and limitations which will protect the people from the exercise of unrestrained powers. He further stated that the new constitution would empower the General Assembly to take from the people the right to elect any of their local officers. The people should elect some of their officers both State and local and the right to do so should be put in the constitution. He further opposed it on the grounds of centralization in school matters.

Gov. Doughton was Speaker of the House in 1891, and has been in the General Assembly either as a member of the House or Lieutenant-Governor, practically since that date and is a leading member of the Bar in the western part of the State and probably more versed in the affairs of the State than any other citizen in the State and his views on this matter are entitled to serious consideration and we predict his views will receive careful attention and consideration from the people of our State.

IS THE LAW ALWAYS OBEYED?

Some time ago the question arose as to whether Herbert Gulley, former Secretary to Senator Bailey and now with the prohibition enforcement of the Nation, was taking any part in political and primary matters. He stated that he was not taking any part in these matters because the law of the land said that he should not engage in partisan politics and of course, he expected the people to believe that he was not because the law of the land said that he should not.

This statement reminds us of statements that have been appearing recently from the office of Mrs. Thos. O'Berry, head of the CWA Relief work in the State, in which she states that her office is functioning without regard to politics and again in a few days another notice would appear of like character. Of course, the law states that her office shall be administered without politics. A few days ago when one of these notices appeared a citizen having read it stated, "that if her office was functioning without regards to politics he had observed that not a single State white-collar job, so far as he had been informed, had been given to a citizen by appointment from her, who had supported Fountain for Governor, notwithstanding that a shift in six thousand votes would probably have changed the occupancy of the Governor's office."

The Law says that Gulley must not engage in politics and the law also says that Mrs. O'Berry should not deal in politics. Is the law being observed?

SALES TAX MAIN ISSUE IN THIS CAMPAIGN

The chief issue in the coming Democratic primary in a large number of Counties is whether or not the general sales tax shall be retained or repealed.

One group favoring the gross sales tax on the grounds that they do not know any other source from which the money can be derived. There is another group of candidates who are opposed to the general sales tax and are standing for repeal, stating that the State is able to support its functions of Government without the general sales tax, pointing out that foreign stocks are absolutely exempt from taxation even though their chief business is located in the State and that franchise taxes can be levied on the dividends of these foreign corporations, which would not violate the constitutional limitation. The Attorney General having recently issued a statement in which he states that according to recent decisions of the Supreme Court these taxes can be legally and justly levied.

There appears reasonably certain that there will be a surplus in the Highway funds of about \$10,000,000 by the time the Legislature meets in January and it is estimated that the gross sales tax will not yield more than \$6,000,000 and probably may not raise more than \$5,000,000. The excess surplus in the Highway fund will probably be \$10,000,000 which is practically double the amount that the gross sales tax is expected to yield. With the above figures how can the gross sales tax be necessary?

Wants Marketing Agreement With The Tobacco Companies

Better prices will be paid for tobacco this year if the administration negotiates another marketing agreement with the tobacco companies, says Dr. G. W. Forster, head of the economics department at State College.

The leading cause of the increased prices in the 1933 season was the agreement signed by the tobacco companies, he said. The average price rose from below 10 cents to more than 15 cents a pound.

The size of the crop this year and the amount of the carryover will have some effect on the price, he said. Nonetheless, another marketing agreement is needed to insure a livable return from the crop.

Last year the market was glutted with a production of 730,000,000 pounds, and the carry-over was 570,000,000 pounds. "Is it any wonder," he questioned, "that prices fell lower and lower as the season advanced until the govern-

Governor Names Pless For Judge

J. Wallace Winborne Declines Post and Solicitor Is Quickly Named

Raleigh, May 25.—Solicitor J. Will Pless, Jr., of the 18th judicial district was appointed superior court judge of the district by Governor Ehringhaus to fill the unexpired term of Judge Michael Schenck, who Monday will become an associate justice of the North Carolina supreme court.

Solicitor Pless, whose home is in Marion, was tendered the appointment by the governor and immediately accepted. The solicitor was reached at Rutherfordton.

Winborne Declines
A few minutes earlier J. Wallace Winborne of Marion, state democratic chairman, had declined the judgeship on account of financial reason.

Governor Ehringhaus said there was no criminal court in the 18th district next week and that he would not appoint a successor to Mr. Pless until he had studied the situation further.

As the solicitor was running for the democratic nomination in the June 2 primary against two opponents, the field was narrowed by his appointment. One of his opponents, C. O. Ridings of Forest City or R. L. Whitmire of Hendersonville, will be chosen the nominee to enter the November election.

It was believed here that Mr. Pless would be nominated by the 18th district democratic executive committee for the judgeship. Judge Schenck was the unopposed democratic nominee when he was elevated to the supreme court by the governor to succeed Justice William J. Adams, who died in Baltimore Sunday.

Telephone Study Well Underway

State Commission Orders Investigation of Telephone Reports

Raleigh, May 24.—The analysis of the inventories of its properties recently submitted to the State Utilities commission by the Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph company, to determine whether they are reasonable or excessive, has already been started, it was learned here today. Leonard A. Blackburn, of the engineering firm of Slaughter, Saville and Blackburn of Richmond, Va., employed by the utilities commission to assist in studying the invoices submitted by the various telephone companies, has already arrived here and is busily at work studying the detailed statements and invoices submitted by the Bell Telephone company.

This company was ordered to appear before the utilities commission May 17 to show cause why its rates in the city of Raleigh and other cities served by it. But the company asked for a continuance so this hearing was postponed until June 5. In the meantime the commission has employed Mr. Blackburn, an expert utilities engineer, to analyze the invoices submitted and to advise it with regard to the various amounts charged to different objects.

Take the item of depreciation, which Commissioner Stanley Winborne regards as being excessive and which was given as \$846,217 for 1933. The commission is insisting that every item charged off to depreciation be carefully studied in order to determine whether or not all the items charged to depreciation should have been charged to it. A similar study of the \$611,556 charged for maintenance is also going to be made, so that the commission may know the real facts with regard to this charge. And so on through the report of the company.

"What we want to know are the real facts and figures," Commissioner (Please turn to page three)

PARAGRAPHS ON NATIONAL PROBLEMS AT WASHINGTON

Congress Hands Sales Tax A Blow

Washington, May 29.—Congress today handed the sales tax another blow when the House commerce committee rejected the Senate bill designed to give sales tax states the right to tax merchandise coming into the state from other states.

Governor Ehringhaus, Commissioner of Revenue A. J. Maxwell and other proponents of State sales taxes made an earnest appeal to Congress for passage of the law to provide for levying a sales tax on goods in inter-state shipment. It was contended that North Carolina merchants were losing a great volume of business because of residents making purchases out of the state to escape the sales tax.

Opponents of the measure contended that passage of such legislation would tend to trench sales tax as a permanent form of taxation and it was this kind of argument which caused the commerce committee to turn down the proposed legislation. The committee voted 10 to 7 against consideration of the bill at this session.

Edgecombe Dries Rely On Jefferson

Cite Great Democrat In Urging Support of Temperance Candidates

Tarboro, May 26.—Rev. J. M. Page of Raleigh representing the Dry Forces of the State had a conference with the Edgecombe Dry Forces committee here Thursday afternoon. Mr. Page said that a campaign for temperance will be conducted in the schools of the State.

The following preamble and resolution was adopted by the committee:

Whereas, Thomas Jefferson, founder of the Democratic party, was strongly opposed to intoxicating liquor and whereas the Democratic party has always professed allegiance to the principles of Jefferson and whereas Jefferson at the end of his eight years term as President declared: "Were I to commence my administration again with knowledge which from experience I have acquired the first question I would ask in regard to every candidate for public office should be: Is he addicted to the use of ardent spirits."

This resolution was passed by the Edgecombe prohibitionists:

"Resolved, that we suggest to the Dry Forces of Edgecombe in view of the fact that no candidates have publicly declared themselves in favor of supporting and upholding the dry laws on the statute books, we pledge ourselves to vote for those candidates in the coming primary who has the best interest of the dry laws at heart. We protest against the men who refuse to stand by the principle of Jefferson in regard to liquor."

SOVIET TO TRAIN YOUTH

Moscow.—War training for 4-500,000 Soviet youths is expected to provide general military eactics and some specialty for boys and thorough first-aid (training) for girls.

PLAN PERMANENT PROGRAM VOTERS MAY PASS UPON IT. CODE SUPERVISION WOBBLING.

INDUSTRY FINDS PROFITS. MANY YET UNEMPLOYED. DEFICIT AND TAX INCOME. DARROW VS. JOHNSON. TARIFF A PARTY LINE-UP. SILVER PARLEY NECESSARY. THE REED-PINCHOT VOTE.

President Roosevelt's permanent economic and social program, which has been held back by pressing problems of the emergency, will provide ample campaign argument. One idea in clearly enunciating the principles of the permanent legislation to be proposed at the next session of Congress, is to give the nation some time to consider and, in the fall elections, an opportunity to approve it by electing candidates pledged to support it.

Heretofore main attention has been centered upon recovery measures, designed to restore confidence and place agriculture, industry and normal living on an even keel. Whether this has been accomplished is a matter of wide disagreement but, nevertheless, the administration feels that enough progress has been made to begin something like a consolidation of the gains. The permanent reforms include three phases, social, business and economic programs.

The social items include a method to settle labor disputes, unemployment insurance, old age pensions, insurance of workers against sickness, a housing program a public relief system and some changes in NRA to make minimum wages meet costs of living. The business program would make NRA something of a co-operative, coordinating body rather than a ruling board, with possibly the abandonment of minor codes and exemption of "service" industries. The economic agenda involves national planning, with particular attention to harbor and river development, prevention of erosion, conservation of natural resources and the adaptation of land usage to human needs.

Government supervision of the codes, already weak in places, may break down if plans to reduce NRA personnel are carried out. Of the 432 codes approved only 333 have been supplied with administration members. If the move to drop a number of the codes affecting small industries is carried out there would seem to be no need for the extensive staff created. If, on the other hand, codification is to run the entire gamut of business, the need for a staff big enough to supervise their operation is imperative.

Moreover, labor insists that in the government of business the working man's interest should be represented and there are others who frankly declare that the consumer should be safeguarded by representation. A measure of social control with as much "freedom for industry" as possible, but without "taking the brakes off" entirely, is certain.

Gen. Johnson, NRA chief, has been trying to persuade industry to voluntarily reduce the hours of labor by ten per cent with a corresponding increase of ten per (Please turn to page four)

NOTICE

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